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25 January 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with SIDZIKAUSKAS

1. On 20 January 1955 at 1230 hours, [] and [] met subject in downtown Washington. The meeting was arranged at the request of subject, who wanted to discuss new developments concerning VLIK.

2. Subject explained that his visit to Washington was connected with the activities of the Assembly of Captive Nations. The chairmen of the delegations of the nine nations participating in the Assembly have come to Washington to acquaint members of Congress and government officials with the work of the Assembly and its future plans. Subject further stated that he expects to be in Europe in May in connection with a planned conference of the Assembly to be held in Strasbourg, France. At that time he will visit VLIK Headquarters, as well as London.

3. With regard to the controversial problem of moving VLIK to the U.S., subject stated that the six non-clerical parties represented in VLIK had a meeting recently and decided in favor of such a move. They are now negotiating with the Christian Democratic bloc in VLIK (four parties) to make the decision unanimous. Subject added that he had spoken to ZADEIKIS, Lithuanian Minister in Washington, on 19 January concerning the VLIK problem. ZADEIKIS stated he has no objection to VLIK's moving to the United States. He only has some personal objections as regards Monsignor KRUPAVICIUS' coming here. Mr. SIDZIKAUSKAS explained that this objection will probably be overcome by a decision of the political parties to leave KRUPAVICIUS in Europe as chairman and to elect a Deputy Chairman who will be at VLIK Headquarters in the U.S.

4. Mr. SIDZIKAUSKAS made additional explanations as to the reason why the representative of Lithuania Minor in VLIK (SIMONITIS) supported the Christian Democrats in opposing the move of VLIK to the U.S. According to SIDZIKAUSKAS, Simonaitis informed BRAKAS (Representative of Lithuania Minor in the U.S.) that KRUPAVICIUS gave him to understand that if VLIK is moved or the present chairman is not reelected, "the American friends may discontinue their support."

5. The participants of the meeting authorized Mr. SIDZIKAUSKAS to tell the representatives of the political parties in New York confidentially that, according to his unofficial information, the Americans will regard favorably a move of VLIK to the U.S. and that American support of VLIK does not depend on the geographic location of VLIK Headquarters. Mr. SIDZIKAUSKAS indicated that the political

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parties will meet on 5 February 1955, at which time the American position will have a definite bearing on the solution of the problem.

6. With regard to the intercepted letter of SIDISKIS, Mr. SIDZIKAUSKAS explained that SIDISKIS has made no charges against any individual members of VLIK. He only asked the police to establish who tampered with the letter. The latest information is that the German police have found fingerprints on the envelope and are now trying to establish the identity of the person involved. Mr. SIDZIKAUSKAS reiterated his previous statement that, despite repeated efforts on his part, RASTENIS (Chairman of the Nationalist Party) has been reluctant to order SIDISKIS to withdraw the complaint.

7. In view of the above situation, Mr. SIDZIKAUSKAS was authorized to tell RASTENIS that the Americans regard with great displeasure the involvement of VLIK with the German police and therefore desire to have RASTENIS instruct SIDISKIS to withdraw his complaint.

8. [] raised the question of the participation of BRAZAITIS in the Assembly of Captive Nations as a representative of FRONTAS. SIDZIKAUSKAS explained that the reason BRAZAITIS had not been appointed was because of the strong objections of VLIK against his candidacy. SIDZIKAUSKAS promised to see whether the omission can be rectified. However, he failed to give any definite promise to do so.

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